

January thru December, 1967

Heart of America Chapter of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors
January and February Report, 1967

Hi there, Fellow Collectors:

Anyone want to donate a better typewriter to your H.O.A. Editor??? This one is just about worn out. Remember the December Report for 1966? That's the one, the last one of that "old" year. Well, we asked a question as to whether we are collectors or specialists ("experts" is the word often referred to by those who know). Believe it or not, so little was thought of the question that it was not even brought up at the meeting nor did we so much as receive a single member's comment. If you don't like our editorials (I believe this is what a good journalist would call those ridiculous time-consuming Reports that we write) tell us so, or write your ideas down and send them to us. Maybe you don't read them. In that case I can save the Chapter a lot of expense. Maybe you do read them but don't care! That doesn't sound like the "thinking" man and that is what you have to be to be a collector. Maybe you read them sorta skimming thru them in a hurry to find out what the Idiot is griping about this time, and then forgetting it. If that is the case, let me tell you that the joker who writes this junk spends hours writing it, rewriting it, and then getting about half of it censored by at least four critical (entirely too critical if you ask me) censors and then ends up rewriting it again.

If that isn't enough, then it takes another two hours per page to cut the stencil and run off the report and another four hours to personally address, staple, and stamp all of your individual copies of the Report, and a lot of praying that it will reach you in time to get you to the meeting--which about half of you REFUSE to come to (obviously you must refuse as we never hear from you stating that you were interested but couldn't possibly make the meeting due to the party of etc., etc., or you planned on coming, packed all the family in the car only to discover that you forgot to put gas in it last night and all the filling stations were closed on Sunday in your suburban area and the nearest collector had already left so you couldn't call him asking him to tow you to the meeting.) Well, anyway, we've had a lot of fun and managed to use up most of the old cliches we could think of, which incidently DOES NOT APPLY to any of our H.O.A. Members, so lets see what's important enough for me to bend your ear with this month.

OUTLINE OF EDITOR'S NOTES during our December H.O.A. Meeting:

- 1) December 11, 1966--1:30 p.m. Meeting opened by President at Charl Mont Cafeteria--44 members, auxiliary members, and guests present (good crowd).
- 2) For the February Meeting--bring information and a list of all YOUR Ansonias with full descriptions.
- 3) For the April Meeting--will photograph all YOUR Ansonia clocks and watches you bring to meeting--professional photographer will photograph each individually for illustration in book or catalogue being prepared.
- 4) Clock Tablets (door glasses and the paintings thereon) will be topic of February Meeting with Paul Holland presenting Program.
- 5) Marcia Bruer will bring article from the N.A.W.C.C. Bulletin regarding "How to Photograph Your Clocks or Watches" for our professional photographer to study up and be prepared to take the pictures at the April Meeting.

(P.S.--Editor has comments to make later on poking fun at some of these "notes" he took so be on the watch for them later on in the Report you are so happily reading this moment.)

- 6) President's report (while safely sitting behind his table flanked by H.O.A. Governing Body of Vice-presidents and Secretary). Whenever anything happens to fellow H.O.A. members, please tell us. Also, article on H.O.A. in the Thursday Evening Kansas City Star on 2nd page--if you are interested.
- 7) Bring your clock problems to the meetings and let the Chapter "Boys" sink their teeth into them.
- 8) Anyone can learn--regardless of how long you've been working at this game.
- 9) Report will run your "for-sale" items if you will only send them to us.

Editor's Notes continued--

- 10) Motion to have Report commercially printed is made and seconded by Holland and Mashburn.
- 11) Motion to cease doorprizes is made and seconded by Dods and Holland.
All motions approved!
- 12) Motion made to continue sending Reports to spouse of H.O.A. member who has died for at least one year, and then drop if no interest is shown. Motion made and seconded by Bruer and Tholen, and motion passed.
- 13) Columbia Tri-Chapter Meeting this year will not be held on or around graduation or any other popular events as it was this past year. (we hope?)
- 14) Southern Regional Meeting to be held in Memphis, Tenn. on March 10th and 11th of 1967.
- 15) Lee Seymour has interesting program on Watches. (Here my notes stopped as I got interested in the Program and forgot to write--but I did manage to jot down a few points that caught me.)
1368--oldest watch movement
Sundials carried in the pocket were really the first watches with those contained in goathide cases dating back to the 11th Century.
Olion Watch--early one-hand Thomas Tompium Watch.
Republican Watch
French Mystery Watch
Mountain (Hill) Watch with four cases (P.S. It escapes me as to why I wrote this down but there must have been something significant about it I missed.)
Day-and-Night Watch
Chinese Duplex Watch with second hand on top of it.
Sutton Watch--McCook, Nebraska
Robinson & Shephard Watch--Washington, Iowa
Early watchmaking seemed to begin in Germany, then spread to Switzerland and France, and finally to England.

SO ENDS THE BUSINESS AT HAND. Lets fac^e it--I'm not mad at anyone--its cold down here in the basement where I have been locked in until I finish this Report (the deadline is tomorrow so I stay here until its done and it is now 2:30 a.m.--that's right-- I'm one of the "night people") The music on the R. is nice, and the babys are all asleep upstairs! Lets take points one thru three--Mrs. Bruer presented a program at our October Meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. McClure on Ansonia and did a beautiful job of it. Ansonia is probably one of the hardest Companies to find information on, but she did a beautiful job even seeking help from the President of the old Company and many of the eastern authorities. Our President is a "go-go" fellow and wants to see our Chapter really hit the big-time. Due to the lack of good information on this subject, everyone agreed that this would really be something--to put into a good catalogue all the valuable information we have on Ansonia and to show pictures of the various items that this Company contributed to the progress and improvement of time-telling. Mr. President, we are behind you one hundred per cent.

Being intelligent people, the Governing Body of H.O.A. realized that this will require months of preparation so they outlined the various steps and phases that we would take to put this idea into operation. NOW, if you perform as expected, no one will have any information written down for this meeting, but everyone will gladly orally tell everything they know about Ansonia, and they will list for you all the Ansonias they have at home and give brief descriptions. Consequently, will someone please bring along a taperecorder so that those verbal contributions can be recorded. Next, for April, you are requested to bring the Ansonia items themselves. Now, lets ask yourself if it isn't ridiculous to ask a chapter of over 65 members to bring the many examples of Ansonias we all have...anyway, everyone else has the same thing so let them bring theirs and get it photographed.

This might be true if it was a collection of butterflies or antique cars we were talking about. But when it comes to clocks, the companies who made these times

tellers were smart enough to know that they had to improve their products and to make them appeal to the various purchasers, so they made changes constantly, and even tho your item does say "Ansonia" on it with the same patent date as everyone else's, if we are going to have a complete book, we have to show all their various contributions. Anyway, it's always nice to be able to say, "that clock (or watch) on page 83 of What's Its Book is my clock" so lets make sure your's is there.

With regard to point six in my Notes, Our President suggested we keep a Chapter Scrapbook of all interesting happenings and reports of our members and their collections. Let me say that this has been done by a number of people one of which is your Editor and an even more complete collection is kept by Marcia Bruer, and there are several others doing likewise. A beautiful pictorial collection was kept by Mr. Thomas of Sweet Springs until he turned professional and was unable to attend the meetings due to Sunday working hours. Of course, our President can be forgiven for overlooking this fact as he only recently has joined our Chapter as has so many others and they are not aware of our earliest struggles. Our Chapter has a record on growth unequalled by any other Chapter in the National Association due to the interest of its members and the outstanding interesting programs we have, and the extreme amount of traveling and learning that is done by our members.

Points seven and eight are good points--only they have been tried (and were great successes and are still being done at every meeting) and apparently no one recognizes them as such. Every meeting sees questions asked and members helping one another but we don't stop and say "Now it is show-and-tell time". We just do it in a quiet unassuming way. As for running "for sale" items in this Report, if you will check your old copies, we have always ran anything anyone cared to send us. BUT, no one has sent us anything to run so how can we run them if no one has anything to sell?????

Motion to have Report commercially printed was welcomed by your Editor as was indicated in the first two paragraphs of this Issue. Our hats are off to the members who have their hearts in the right place. Let me tell you, it sure will be swell getting this thing written at least three weeks in advance of the meeting and having someone else sweat out the stencil cutting and duplicating. Of course, that means we'll have to have the President's Report, the Secretary's Report and the Auxiliary Chairman's Report in advance if we are going to write anything and I don't remember receiving a single thing in the mail for this Report. Of course, they were undoubtedly lost in the Christmas mail even tho the Post Office feels very proud of their record this year to get every letter thru. Did you write to me???

Anyone interested in how we get the scoop on hot news? We get on the telephone and call a few "agents". Agent 5802 reported that our next meeting will be on Lincoln's Birthday, February 12th, at the Charl Mont Cafeteria in the Broadway Shopping Center at 36th Broadway, Kansas City, Missouri. This February Meeting would be started with a big dinner by all the members beginning at 12:30 that Sunday afternoon with the Meeting itself getting under way about 1:30 for those members who do not care to eat but want to get in on all the fun. Are you with us? Being so close to Valentine's Day, and a certain Member's Wedding Anniversary, it ought to be a lot of fun, so plan on coming. See you there, if I can get the basement door unlocked. So long.

Clement C. Wagner, Editor
5506 Euclid
Kansas City, Mo. 64130

P.S. Listing of new National Association Members will be ran again in next Report, if our Secretary gets them to me in time. Also, our Treasurer wishes to remind all of you that your 1967 H.O.A. Dues of \$2.00 are due by April 1st.